MIDDLE SCHOOL GOOD TIMES

Vol. 12 #6 June 1986 Paw Paw Middle School, Paw Paw, MI 25c

Pictured above is the spelling team at the Applesauce competition in South Haven where they placed 2nd out of nine schools. See also p. 2

Happy Birthday!

Happy summer birthdays to the following people:

Candy Weaver- 8- 6
Amy Tarala- 8-14
Rebecca Terrell- 8-1
Troy Riegle- 8-31
Nicole Rickli- 7-3-
Stacy Kruizenga 6-2
Sara Labadie- 7-17
Debbie Lumm- 6-21
Rusty Martin 8-1
Brian Melson 8-16
Skeeter Olson 8-17
Billi Jo Kerr 6-2
Adam Holleman 6-3
Loree Hoover 8-28
Leslie Geasa- 8-21
Chris Dinehart 7-31
Jessica Angel 8-26
Bryan Baughman 6-27
Mike Bommerscheim 8-27
Don Burnett 6-30
Amy Buskirk 7-28
Leanna Charlier 7-28
Vicky Conlkin 8-22
Corey Cosley 6-10
Tyler Silber 7-9
Amy Soule 7-28
Greg Straka 6-15
DonThatcher 8-18
Corya Underwoord 8-9
Mark Van Horn 7-12
Amy Weatherwax 8-21
Chris Williams 7-14
Mike Wright 8-15
Tammy Selby 7-19
Michelle Richardson 6-14
Kelly Prawat 7-13
Jennifer Peat 8-3
Rochelle Motter 6-14
Gary Imus 8-13
Todd Kelly 8-23
Michelle Kerr 7-5
Jennifer Kopec 7-20
Chris Kuhlmann 7-12
Michelle Lake 6-15
Kathy Lucas 6-23
Bill MCNeil 8-2
Steve Finley 8-31
Sam Cozart 7-31
Pam Coyer 8-29
Melissa Hall 8-1
Elizabeth Hatfield 7-11
Bob Barkman 8-12
Michelle Bean 7-1
Casie Blanton 7-3
Phil Blakely 6-27
Jeromy Brautigam 8-12
Heather Briley 7-3
Jennifer Brown 8-5
Jessica Brown 6-28
Harold Charlier 8-9
Tony Charron 8-22
Derrick Wyatt 8-10
Monica Warren 6-22
Edna Tovias 8-6
Jeff Stevens 6-28
Shawn Seelbrede 8-26
John Sinkewiz 7-21
Anglea Scotese 7-18
Karla Ruthruff 7-12
Kerri Rieck 7-26
Wendy Reinoehl 6-1

Jennifer Starbuck 6-7
Lori Ramsey 8-15
Charels Pressler 7-24
Laura Morrison 8-12
Marc Nelson 8-16
Jon Njus 8-24
Cherie Oliver 7-2
Sue Melson 7-27
Angela Meeker 7-4
Becky McLEmore 6-14
Joanna Lindenbach 7-1
Andy Lumm 7-7
Kristin Kerwin 6-13
Gus Harrell 6-17
Crhis Griffiths 8-23
Lisa Charlier 7-28
Jason Coffman 8-25
Michelle Cronnenwett 8-18
Cindy Curtis 8-13
Jim DeGroff 6-22
Stacy Dorbin 6-5
Nikki Dreier 8-28
Don Finley 6-29
Rob Foster 8-29
Abby Baker 8-12
Shelly Bergeson 7-6
Kevin Blakley 6-21
Jason Brautigam 7-4
De Ann Robinson 7-7
Scott Buchana 8-20
Happy birthday to anyone we missed. and to
Mrs. Kovach, Mr. Erickson, Mrs. Chavoya... etc.

~~Colleen Bos-- 6-11~~

CONCERT

The Paw Paw Middle School choir presented their spring concert May 28 at 8:00 at the Village Play house since the middle school is undergoing repairs.

Soloists included Mari Cooper, Chester Dillenbe-k, Jenny Lee and Mandy LEonard.

GB

The Good Times Staff included the following: Gina Blacksten, Janise Overton, Jenny Butler, Jennifer Starbuck, Robin Bonarski, Lynn Utter Colleen Bos, Christy Olsen, Marc Nelson, Heath Beckstrom, Nadean Nardielle, Tara Twardowski, Julisa Garcia, Michelle Cronenwett, Abby Baker, Michelle Kelly, and Vicki Allgaier. We meet even days 4th hour in room 213.

the bus

The School Bus

The black and yellow demon
fixes me with an evil stare.
I snivel and weaken under the
awful glare.
I know if I enter I'm doomed to
stay
Until it opens its doors and
sends me away.
Once inside my fate is clear
The busdriver's driving serves to
heighton my fear.
The interior of the bus is
painted army green
And the bus itself is not what
I would call clean.
I've heard people call it a "Won
derful mode of transportation"
Though I've a sneaking suspicion
they were the products of mutation.
I guess if you really are in
need of a ride.
You could catch a bus the school
patronizingly provides.

c.Bos

8th gr. Dance

The 8th grade annual was held Saturday evening from 7:30-10:30 in the middle school cafeteria.

Carnations were sold , punch and desserts were served and the music was provided by Brad Brooks.

Chaperones were Mrs. Dobbs and Mrs. Swanson.

It was another "night to remember."

What We'll Miss Most

As an annual feature in the Good Times, we asked the 8th graders to tell us what they would miss most about the middle school.

Samantha Scowley would "miss some of my teachers and classes like art and home ec." Joe Pacula will miss the "ringside entertainment with Gus and John in Mr. Topp's room." Brett Henson will miss "our friendly librarian."

Melody Emery will miss "Mrs. Matson who is very nice and funny too." Hope Overacker will miss "Mr. Drury becuase he's my friend and also Mr. Topp who's a pretty cool teacher." s Michelle Osment will miss "Shelton and all my other 'young' friends- definitely not the teachers- haha." Chris Brill says he'll miss "in general, just about everything." Ivy Charlier will miss "Mr. Stenner because I think he is the nicest of all the teachers."

John Sinkewiz will miss "the school's 'barf ala king'". Brian Wolfson will miss " the wonderful school, the excellent teachers, and the stupendous cafeteria." Rhonda Branch will miss"being the oldest." Kymm Herring "will miss Shelton Mitchell because I love him so much." Gabriela Soto will miss " all the fun I had and some teachers are nice."

Rob Foster will miss " the stupid posters they have in the lunch room." Cindy Curtis will miss "Mrs. Kalisiak's rowdy home ec. class."Shannon Buhl will miss "Mr. Drury and the way we always seemed to bump into each other especially when I'm not behaving."

Sheila Davis will miss " the teachers and the janitors because they have taught me a lot. The teachers are nice if you are nice and do the work. If you have a sour attitude you might as well hang it up." Laurie Moore will miss "Mrs. Swanson". Vicki Allgaier will miss "the teachers ,'hassling' Mr. Drury, Mr. Topp picking on me and I will totally miss Ms. Swanson's cracky jokes."

Matt Forster will miss " the stairs. Over the years these stairs have supplied me with ample exercise and companionship."

Andy Lumm will miss "study hall everyday. It's a great time to socialize."Tess Sullivan will miss "the bathrooms. They turn me on. (just joking.)" David Quick will miss "the teachers screaming at me to go to the office." (Cheer up the high school has both an office and teachers.)

Kelli Carpenter will miss "the simplicity of everyday life in the middle school, the pace and tranquility of this place." Crissie Reed will miss " well, you know , little things mean a lot so I'll probably just miss being there." I don't know why but I felt the same way about Cedar Street when I visited it in 7th grade. So when I'm a sophomore, I'll visit this school and see how I feel."

Kevin Blakley will miss "my rickety chair in Erickson's." Tonya Page will miss " some of the teachers and being the oldest." Nate Labadie will miss "the niceteachers and the easy work." Becky McLemore will miss " the memories.. not including the friendships I've made with the teachers. They are cool 'cause just like anyone else - give them a fair shot. I'll really Mrd. Matson. She's one of my favorite teachers and friends."

Katrina Paremelee will miss " Mrs. Kalisiak who was always there to talk to and Mr. Snyder who was always encouraging me but also telling meto have fun. Thanks to both of these teachers. I would never have made it through middle school without them." Virginia Bowers will miss "mostly friends," as will Michelle Percival who'll miss "teachers also." Tracy Teeter will miss "Mr. Stenner He's a great teacher and I think he's neat. 'sorry I didn't do well in your class.'"

Chris Teague will miss "recess and study hall and not much more."

Alta Mitchell will miss-"some of the teachers- other than that, nothing." Jason Coffman will miss "some of the teachers" also while Monica Warren will miss "the 'nice'teachers."

Billy Krumrei ill miss "not being the highest grade in the school." Marc Nelson will miss " Mr. Snyder for keeping me in line and putting pressure on me when I needed it. I will miss playing tackle football in the gravel parking lot."

Rose Leduc will miss "the teachers. They were really nice to me. The lunch ladies were nice too," Jim Ortquist will miss " the nice faculty and most of Mr. Snyder, Mr. Erickson, Mr. Zolp, Mr. Edinger and Mr. Stenner. Robin Bonarski will miss " nothing but these most wonderful micro-mini lockers the 8th grade people always get."

Mike Makowski will miss " the lunch room and the scenic view of looking outside." Julie Buck will miss "all the almost food fights that were beginning to start." Patti Sult will miss " Mr. Erickson's joking around and picking on Nathan."

Dawn Deal will miss " Mr. Erickon yelling at the class and Mr. Topp's class because it was fun." Derrick Wyatt will miss "all the sanitary restroom facilities and the fresh-smelling locker rooms."

Stacy Dorbin will miss "the loveable teachers like Mrs. Swanson and all the others...." Kelle Porth will miss" all the fun conversations with Mrs. Barrett about overdue library books that I never checked out, the great times with Mrs. Kovach and the billions of pencils and pens that are rattling around the school somewhere that have disappeared from the face of the earth."

Jill Doornhaag will miss " thin lockers that you cram your bag in and aren't able to get it out later." Sam Barker will miss" running up and down them' stairs." Shelly Bergeson will miss "M.r. Topp and Mr. Ruesink." Joanne Lindenbach will miss a lot of the people I've known through the years, Mr. Drury, Mrs Swanson and Mrs. Firestone."

Advice to 6 &7th

The next question we asked the 8th graders was "What advice would you give to the 6th and 7th graders?" Jeff Dragon suggested," Do the best you can in your classes because they are hard." Colleen Bos says, " The secret to success is sincerity and once you can fake that you've got it made!"Gina Blacksten suggests," take some advice from someone who knows..'when Mr. Topp says to be quiet, then be quiet.'" Shawn Seelbrede says," I would tell them to study a half hour a night on each subject and do their homework." Tonya Beeman says," try to get along with the other students and staff members and it will be a lot easier for you."

Karen Brennan suggests," to do the best you can, live long and prosper, as Pat would say." Will Engel says,"Don't be tardy for Mrs. Dobbs' class whaever you do." Lynn Utter suggests," to keep your chins up and never let it get you down, because once you're down, you're out for the count."

Tawi Moore says," don't ever be late for class because if you do they will definitely cram you into the pencil sharpener for the whole hour." John Skupien says, "Whatever you do don't get on a teacher's bad side- you'll regret it all year."

Tina O'Bryne says, " work hard but have a good time. Get good grades so you can make the year go and be out of school." Chester Dillenbeck suggest, " Study spelling. Be kind to the teachers. (Their jobs are hard enough.)" Jason Brautigam says,"Keep your heads in the books. Make the string of champions in the spelling bees, scienceolympiad and math competition go on. "

Kirk Warner says,"Make friends with everyone. Don't make enemies." Lisa Charlier suggests, "Pick friends that you will be friends with all year. 8th grade was a really terrific year for me." Mike Ignacek jokes," Go to another school."

Roy Barnett warns," Stay cool and stay out of the I.S.S. room." His thoughts are echoed by William Tyrone Carter.

wills

As though you were writing a last will and testament, what would you leave to whom and why?This was the final question put to the 8th graders upon their departure this week.

Angela Meeker would leave" the memory of my great brain to Mr. Topp." Gus Harrell would leave" my fines to Mrs. Barrett, tell you to be nice Mrs. Dobbs and leave all my handsome looks to all the male 7th graders."

Nadine Nardielle leaves "my water bed to Shannon Tapper and my clothes to my step-sister Kim." Mandy LEonard leaves" to ALison S. and Emily L. the good times and excitement of 8th grade because they are two of my favorite friends in the 6thgrade."

Jenny Burrows leaves " Beth SChull all my good luck wishes and of course I couldn't forget to leave my very best friend Cherie Oliver all my Duran Duran things except my one picture of Sean Taylor." Lori Ramsey says " I leave Sarah Dorbin her maroon sweater she left at my house and hasn't picked up yet."

Matt Forster leaves "my body to Niki Finnerman." Andy Lumm leaves "to my sister my 7th grade tests." Jon Njus leaves "my Michigan State pride to Bill McNeil and my basketball skill to my brother and to Shelton Mitchell."

Jeff Crouse leaves "to Brian Meyer my shot put skills." David Hansen leaves his locker to some poor 7th grader. "Why they would want I don't know." Cherie Oliver leaves " my Duran Duran pix and everything I own to Jenny Burrows because she is one ofthe best people in my life and has helped me and stayed by me i all my rough times."

Jennifer STarbuck leaves " JaJa Moore my Earth SCience book because she needs to know all about the wonderful rocks and renewable resources."

Abby Baker leaves" my knowledge to Mr. Erickson. He has an extra teacher." Christy Olsen leaves" Don for the loving 7th graders. Enjoy. " Sue Melson leaves "my name to Mrs. Kalisiak because I think she's one of the best teachers." Edna Tovias leaves " Chastity and Michelle Knapp all my pictures and to Leah Billings the contents of my locker."

Wendy Reinoehl leaves " my books to Jennifer Sommerfeldt-she needs to know more. I'd leave my house to Lisa Carpenter because everyone loves mine. I would leave my Lotto money with Shelly Winkleman because I'm generous and I'd leave my locker to Teelina Rumbaugh becuase she likes the location of it."

Angela SCotese leaves " to Peter Menard my old book 'Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing', and to Kim Haefner and Kristy Flesher my song, 'Oh Johnny!" Ray Kusmack leaves "my locker and all my books and all my grades ,which may not help anyone but they shouldn't hurt them either." Gina Blacksten leaves "my softball glove to Jennifer Sommerfelt, and Inca, Bunca ,Dinka (personal joke), to Becky Houghton all my detentions and misconducts . She's a riot."

Cherie Dingman leaves " the cafeteria food to all the 6th and 7th graders so they'll get a lot of nutrition." (lucky you, Cherie- they have a cafeteria at the high school too,)

Sam Barker leaves "Jimmy Douglas my locker, to Brian Baughman I leave a little advice in Mr. Topp's class." Kelle Porth leaves to "Jessica Brown an ancient algebra book that was once passed on to me valued at $90000." Heath Beckstrom leaves " Shelton Mitchell my hair because he needs a nice big afro.."(from Jeff Dragon too.)

Rob Heinzelman leaves " to my locker a new lock and owner, to my books new covers and owner, to my teachers a new class and the old one just memories, ah but good memories,and to Mrs. Barrrett I leave my fines and overdue notices and the old books."

Marc Nelson leaves " my pencil to Brian Meyer." Joe Pacula leavs my sense of humor to Mr. Martin.." and my joke book." Patti Norg leaves "my locker mirror to Brian Hunt because he is always taking it." Chris Frank leaves " my new socks and tennis balls to my dog because he lieks to chew on them." Nicki Hannan leaves " my cousin Melissa Hall and Dorothy Clendenin my homework so they could get through!"

Shelly Zach leaves " Scott Bielski my books because he needs all the smarts he can get." Jenny Butler leaves " a pack of pencils to DEbbie because it seems like she's always borrowing a pencil from somebody." Jane McGuire leaves "my locker to Yvette Krause because it has generation of good people in it." Mari Cooper leaves "my heart to Ricky Yarbrough because next year we won't be near each other as much and I want a part of me to always be with him."

Jim De Groff leaves " Mr. Zolp to all the 6th and 7th graders." Schenli Olier leaves "all my undone homework to Melissa Hall because she deserves it for all the times she's hit me in the past.I leave my locker to Troy Barnett because he is always around it anyhow."

Dan Fuller leaves " my hhree wheeler to no one. I'd be a greedy character and take it with me. My trophy would go to my dad and mom." Chris Date would leave "Jeff Crouse my black cokcer spaniel because his dog is nice and I want to see what the puppies would look like."

Yvonnne Clemence would leave "Tony my heart and to Ang my belongings and my phone bills." Heather Smith leaves to my cousin Bubba my ability to high jump."

MORE ADVICE

Mike Cox leaves "my $5.32 book fine to Mrs. Barrett." Nathan Bedecs leaves " my bike to the Goodwill so someone who needs it could probably have it." Kelli Carpenter leaves " all the joys of middle school to my sister. I just might leave a portable stool to Ms. Swanson so she can get the shades pulled down."

David Quick leaves "my reputation and skills to my sister who is up and coming into the 6th grade next year." Tara Twardowski leaves "to Julie Christenson, Mr. Topp, my pencil stubs andto Mr. Topp I leave my great sense of humor to remember me by."

Vicki Allgaier leaves " to Matt Hughes all my bear hugs, to Christy Flesher the chance for Ricky Shroder and I'll leave Jon Njus to look like Don Johnson. (HaHaHaHa)." Cindy Curtis leaves "my great sense of humor to Jeff Njus because he's enjoyed it so much." Rob Foster leaves my only two pairs of stilts to Mr. Topp and Mrs. Swanson."

Bryan Price leaves " my bike and my 450 SX to my cousin because he is such a nice kid." Scott Buchanan leaves " some Garfield posters to Mr. Stenner so he could put more life into his room." Bryan Bly leaves " my kidney to Mr. Snyder so he could put it in a jar like he does all of his animals."

Kerri Rieck leaves " my tank top to my best friend Karen because she's had it for a long time anyhow." Scott Boley leaves " the school lunches to Mr. Drury and Mr.Pefley and all my magazines to Chris." Shannon Tapper leaves "my locker and books to Kelly Prawat my cat to Katie and everything else to my parents to fight over- except Nadine and Angela can have my clothes!"

Becky U nderwoodleaves" my school books to Virginia because her chance of passing doesn't look too good and I don't want anything to do with them"

Rob Heinzelman will leave "to my locker a lock and a new owner, to my books a new owner and bookcover, to my teachers a new class and the old one, just memories, ah but good memories." Michelle Kelly leaves " my tiny little locker to Heather Briley.I know you will love it." Nikki Curtis leaves "to John LEan all my Michigan STate stuff and to Bill McNeil good luck in all that you do. You're a great person and good friend. I'll really miss you a lot."

Don FInley will leave" my super tall locker to Brett Baney who needs it. I leave my seat in algebra to the brain of the 7th grade who will later leave it to the brain of the 6th grade." Laura Morrison leaves " to Kim Haefner all my pictures of Ronald Reagan that are in my locker. I know she will take such good care of them. To Peter Menard, a carrot."

Jane McGuire leaves " my locker to Yvette Krause because it has generations of good people in it."

Some extra advice... Andy Lumm says," you can't succeed unless you try (duh). Always take schoolwork seriously but not too seriously." Jon Njus says," be an MSU fan. Mr Edinger will think you're awaesome. Study hard, get your work in, especially in Mrs. Dobbs' and wear a gas mask in the locker room."

Rosa Varnesdeel suggests,"tell Mr. Topp you have been a Tiger fan for years." Jeff Crouse says,"Try to get active in sports. Get good grades and just be normal.Don't act stupid and always try to be a funny guy." Tess Sullivan says," don't call Mr. Topp shorty (or Mrs. Swanson). Don't jump out of the windows in Mrs.Swanson's class. You might just make her mad." Jenny Burrows says,"Be sure you study for all tests in 8th grade. Make sure you get Mrs. Swanson in8th grade."

Dear Sam

A Dear Sam confidential answer:

To "Depressed",

If you really believe there is a problem such as the one you describe then go at once to speak to Mr. Pefley who already has read the letter. That is the best way to handle the situation. Alone there isn't much you can do.

Due to circumstances beyond our control the Dear Sam letters for this time have disappeared.

To the girl who wanted to let her secret love at St. Mary's know how she felt:

He may already know. If not, then just become reallygood friends with him. Talk to him and show you care about him. He'll probably take it from there- if the relation ship is going anywhere at all. Just be friends and see what happens.

Again our apologies- write again next fall. See you then.

Requiem for 1985-87

I think all of the 8th grade (at least those of us who are going on to 9th grade) will miss the middle school and its many fine features. For instance, I'm sure all will miss our bright cheerful, not to mention sturdy, audi torium. I for one will miss the friendly fungus which are breeding at an amazing rate in the girls' locker room. Yes, I'm sure the high school won't have that same heartwarming odor of coffee beans and sweat socks.

I call now for a moment of silence in which we might remember the middle school and its many health-hazardous but always charming attributes.

cb

track records

Two school records were set this season in track. Mychelle Overton in the long jump,14'10" and the 400 meter relay of Kymm Herring-Mychelle Overton, Karen Brennan and Nicki Dreier who made it in 56.2"

The first Co-Ed Redskin RElay made its debut May 16 involving six schools' teams. Comstock took first place, Paw Paw came in second. The otherteams included Allegan, Schoolcraft, Lawton, and Marcellus.

A sports banquet was held Wednesday to congratualate the team members on a fine season. Coaches were Mrs. Betty Firestone and Mr. Dan Erickson.

Girls track team included the following :Sue Pasterik, Rosa Varnesdeel, Kelly Prawat, Kthy Klein, Ivy Charlier, Kymm Herring, Nicki Dreier, Shannon Buhl, Karen Brennan, Kim Haefner, Jennifer Sommerfeldt, Kerry Tokarchick, Melissa Hall, Kelly Peat, Rochelle Motter, Niki Finnerman, Leah Billings, Mychelle Overton, Janise Overton, Nadean Nardielle, Shannon Tapper, Debbie Gassett,Heather Smith and Lynn Utter. Managers were Jennifer PEat, Kim Johnson, Lisa Charlier, Tess Sullivan and Joyce HEaly.

Boys' Track team included the following: Jeromy Brautigam, Jason Brautigam, Erich Bowers, Brett Herwick, Miles Blakley, Jeff Betzner, Brett Baney, Matt Forster, Rob Foster Jason Coffman, Shelton Mitchell, Kevin Blakley, Peter Pierson, Billy Carter, Brian Meyer, Chris Date, and Tim Hollewa. Manager was Brian Gates.

ESSAYS - 5th Graders' View

An annual tradition in the Good Times has been a contest for fifth graders who write their thoughts on coming to the middle school. In some ways these seem to parallel the feelings of those leaving to go to the high school.

The essays were terrific this year and so choosing the best was tough. The winner from Black River was Ben Edinger; the runner -up was Hannah Ruggles. Below is Ben's essay.

-Essay- #1

Going to the middle school next year will be exciting. Instead of having one teacher we will have a few. We'll be able to participate in band and a few sports. We will have our own locker to keep our belongings in. I think it might be difficult to keep track of which teacher I go to next, but I think I can adjust. I think it might be harder to get up earlier, but it will be lots of fun when I get home earlier. I am guessing that it might be a little easier since my dad teaches there.

Ben Edinger

2nd Essay

There were a number of good essays from Cedar Street also. The winner was Sheila Perkins; the runners-up wereChristine Curry and Heather Earl.

Going to the middle school next year will be an experience. I feel as if I will be alone and frightened. Other sixth graders says not to be worried, that it is fun , but I am worried. We will be the babies and what if the sixth and seventh graders tease us? And what if I can hardly ever see my friends? I am afraid that the gym teacher or band teacher will make us work too hard. I have been at this school from kindergarten through fifth. I don't want to leave all my old teachers, but then, I am still very excited about going next year. Oh what if I forget my locker combination? And I'm afraid I won't be able to get my work done and I'll get tardy too many times. I may have to stay after school! I hope I make it!

Sheila Perkins

The prizes included a copy of this paper and a certificate to the Sugar Bear.Congratulations. See you next year.